

Workshop: Geo-philately: Earth Sciences on Postage Stamps.

Online short course via Zoom

Saturday, 19 March, 9-12 am

https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section_Meetings/GSA/Sections/ne/2022mtg/courses.aspx

Northeast Section, Geological Society of America meeting

Lancaster, PA March 20-22, 2022

https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section_Meetings/GSA/Sections/ne/2022mtg/home.aspx

Regular conference registrants pay a \$10 additional fee for the workshop.

People not otherwise registered for the conference pay a \$25 conference fee, plus an additional \$10 for the workshop. Register at https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/Events/Section_Meetings/GSA/Sections/ne/2022mtg/registration.aspx

Registration is open as of Dec. 15, 2021. Registration continues until the meeting date. If you register before Feb. 14, 2022, this will help organizers assess the viability of the workshop, they will be able to contact you and better ascertain the interests of workshop attendees.

Convener: Rob Sternberg, Professor emeritus of Geosciences, Franklin & Marshall College,
rob.sternberg@fandm.edu.

(See Rob's blog on the International Geophysical Year, including items from his IGY stamp collection, at <https://internationalgeophysicalyear.blogspot.com/>.)

Description: Many postage stamps of the world bear images related to the earth sciences. How can these be collected? What earth-science topics can be used as the basis for a collection? How might these stamps be used in education? What messages do the issuing countries convey with these stamps ?

What topics might be included in geo-philately? I'd certainly opt for a broad definition, including stamps, covers and other philatelic products on subjects like national parks, geoscientists, geologic congresses, mountains, volcanoes, rivers, glaciers, deserts, other landforms, atmospheres, oceans, soil, climate and weather, the near-Earth space environment, minerals, fossils, natural resources, natural hazards, environmental protection.

Target audience: The workshop aims to be of use to more and less experienced stamp collectors as well as to those casually interested in geosciences on stamps, and maybe thinking of starting a collection. Geoscientists, stamp collectors, and people who do both (or neither) are welcome!

A tentative workshop program is below, pending recruitment of speaker and knowing who the participants will be and what their interests are.

1. Introduction by Rob Sternberg. 10 minutes.

What is topical and thematic stamp collecting?

What is geo-philately?

2. Featured speaker 1, Garry Toth: part 1 – [Atmosphere, weather, and climate on stamps](#); part 2 – [Space weather on stamps](#). 35 minutes.

Questions – 5 minutes

3. Featured speaker 2, Fred Haynes: [Minerals on stamps](#). 35 minutes.

Questions – 5 minutes

3. Mini-presentations of other attendees. 40 minutes.

Rob Sternberg - [International Geophysical Year collection](#)

Scott Tiffney - [Director of Information Services and Librarian at the American Philatelic Research Library](#)

Representative of the [Philatelic Society of Lancaster County](#)

4. Discussion and questions. 30 minutes.

How to identify and delimit a topic?

Where to buy?

How to organize a collection?

What societies/groups to join?

What are some good online and other philatelic resources?

How can our interests be shared and promoted?

How can stamps be used in teaching?

How can stamps be used in research?

5. Outcomes of workshop? 20 minutes.

networking/outreach/online presence

education

collate resources

American Philatelic Society; Americana Topical Association, local stamp clubs. The ATA also has a number of geo-oriented study groups: American Society of Polar Philatelists; Archaeological Study Unit; Astronomy Study Unit; Biology Unit; CartoPhilatelic Society; Chemistry & Physics Study Unit; Gems-Minerals-Jewelry Study Unit; Petroleum Philatelic Society International; Space Unit.

philately article/news item reporting on the workshop

geology article/news item reporting on the workshop

new study group